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Germany wins Eurovision Song Contest

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Germany is the winner of the Eurovision Song Contest for the second time ever. Teenager Lena Meyer-Landrut wowed international audiences with her performance and won with an impressively wide lead.



The teenager won by a margin of 76 points

Germany has won the Eurovision Song Contest for the second time in the event's history with an upbeat performance by teenage star Lena Meyer-Landrut.

The 19-year-old from Hanover swept to victory with an impressive 246 points, while the closest contender Turkey scored 170.

Her song "Satellite" was already a huge success inside Germany, where Meyer-Landrut won her spot at Eurovision on the German selection show "Our Star For Oslo."

"I'm so happy and so thankful and so grateful and I never thought that we could do this," she said upon accepting the trophy.

"Thank you. This is so absolutely awesome," she said. "This is not real."

Delighted residents of several German cities set off fireworks after Meyer-Landrut opened up a convincing lead in phone-in votes from across Europe. Viewers in nine out of 39 participating nations gave Germany the maximum points possible.

Shouts of joy from fans

As soon as Germany's first Eurovision win in 28 years was announced, there were shouts of joy from thousands of spectators watching giant outdoor screens across the country.

Stefan Raab, the well-known television personality who oversaw the song selection process, welcomed the fact the Germany will now play host to next year's song contest.

"After almost 30 years we've done it, we have brought the Eurovision song contest back to Germany," he said.

There was praise for Meyer-Landrut from Lutz Marmor, director of public broadcaster NDR.

"Lena has, in her own special way, enchanted the whole of Europe," said Marmor. "A fairy tale has come true. I congratulate her warmly for this excellent win."

School exams ahead of big test

Meyer-Landrut had to cram for final-year high-school exams immediately ahead of her performance. A series of television appearances ahead of the continental music extravaganza made her a national celebrity. She charmed the public with her natural charm and youthful energy.

She already claimed a place in German chart history after winning the domestic contest - with an unprecedented three debut songs placing in the top five of the singles charts on release.

Extravagant costumes and sparkling light displays formed part of the 55th Eurovision spectacle at the Telenor Arena near Oslo,

Date 29.05.2010

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The singer was already popular with the German public

which was packed with 16,000 spectators.

Hotly contested, widely viewed
Performers from 25 countries competed to win this year's Eurovision Song Contest, with some 125 million viewers believed to have tuned into Europe's largest song competition.

Turkey took the second spot, followed by Romania in third place and Denmark in fourth. Azerbaijan, which had been strongly tipped to win, finished in fifth place.

The last time that Germany won the Eurovision Song Contest was in 1982, with the song "A Little Peace" performed by 17-year-old Nicole Seibert.

rc/APE/Reuters
Editor: Catherine Bolsover

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» **Topless video adds heat to Eurovision run-up in Germany**

Germany's Eurovision Song Contest candidate is making headlines for more than just her singing talents. A controversial topless video has marred her wholesome image, but it hasn't hurt sales of her singles. (24.05.2010)

» **Germany sends Eurovision star Lena into orbit**

Germany's hope for the Eurovision Song Contest, Lena Meyer-Landrut, has skyrocketed to the top of the German charts and into the hearts of fans. Still, the 18-year-old star has kept both feet on the ground. (13.04.2010)

» **Hanover teenager named Germany's hope for Eurovision**

It's official: Hanover schoolgirl Lena Meyer-Landrut will represent Germany in the Eurovision Song Contest this year, after winning national television casting show "Our Star for Oslo." (12.03.2010)

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20.08.2012

He was one of the most significant journalists of his time: a satirist, a cabaret writer, a socialist and pacifist. And because he wrote so much, he used a host of pseudonyms. Kurt Tucholsky was a truly enigmatic figure.

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